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CASES ON CRIMINAL LAW. A selection of Reported Cases on Criminal Law. By William E. Mikell, Professor of Law in the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: International Printing Co. In two volumes. Vol. II. 1903. pp. 505-983. 8vo.

The second volume of Professor Mikell's Cases on Criminal Law consists of cases on specific crimes, the general principles of criminal law having been treated in the first volume. It is of course impracticable in a case-book on this subject, especially in one designed for use in law schools, to include cases on every species of crime. Only the more important subjects can be considered. The editor is met at the outset, therefore, with the difficulty of deciding what to leave out. Professor Mikell's choice is, in the main, good, but it is believed that he might well have omitted the short chapters on false imprisonment and abortion, which contain but one or two cases. The subject of conspiracy, which would perhaps most naturally be taken up as a specific crime, was treated in Vol. I. in the chapter on the criminal act.

In subdividing chapters the editor has carried out the plan of his first volume, and has arranged his cases in as complete a classification as the subjects allow. The selection of cases on personal injury is very good, the choice of reported decisions to illustrate the various means by which death may be caused so as to entail criminal responsibility being particularly happy. In the chapter on homicide there is a group of cases on the subject of jurisdiction which in the "Cases on Criminal Law" of Professor Beale is considered under a separate chapter in that part of the volume which deals with the general principles of criminal law. The chapter on larceny, which for a work of this kind must be a most vexatious subject to arrange, is quite satisfactory. Of the subdivisions of this subject the one entitled "Trespass" is by far the most comprehensive, including cases which in Professor Beale's collection would come under his subheading, "Possession," and also cases of larceny by a bailee, by breaking bulk, and by trick. The last three classes of cases might more naturally be placed in a separate subdivision, since they form anomalous exceptions to the general rule that larceny includes a trespass.

Most of the cases, as might be expected, are taken from English reports, but a fair number of American cases are included. The recent cases are happily chosen and illustrate well the points for which they are inserted. The editor has appended an index, which adds greatly to the value of the collection as a book of reference.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION TO THE ROMAN LAW. By Frederick Parker Walton, Advocate of the Scottish Bar, Professor of Roman Law and Dean of the Faculty, McGill University. Edinburgh and London: William Green & Sons. 1903. pp. xi, 256. 8vo.

"With the exception of the Bible there is no book which has so profoundly affected western civilization as the *Corpus Juris*." With these suggestive words Dean Walton begins his clear and interesting summary of the history of the Roman Law before Justinian. Intended as an introduction to the study in Montreal of the Roman law in its modern form, and especially as it appears to-day in the law of the Province of Quebec, it is equally valuable for one who is to learn the modern Civil law and for one to whom Roman law is of interest only as a wonderful and effective example of the human intellect applied to the complex affairs of an imperial civilization. Dean Walton describes clearly and convincingly not only the history of important legal doctrines, but also the constitutional history of Rome so far as it had to do with the making of law. The author's learning is evident, but not obtrusive; his grasp of the subject is complete; his enthusiasm is, even to a devotee of the Common Law, almost contagious. Of especial value to a student of English law are his description of the growth of the commercial law at Rome, his explanation of the ante-Justinian sources of law, and his theory of the development of the *jus gentium*. In publishing in so handy a form just the facts about the history of Roman law that we most need to know, Dean Walton has deserved the thanks of the profession.

J. H. B., JR.